



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 24, 2015

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Brian J. Whiston, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Presentation on the Michigan Social Studies Standards and Period of Public Comment

Over three years ago, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) joined 27 other states to create the College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies. For the past 16 months, the social studies community has updated and reviewed the Michigan Social Studies Standards through the lens of the C3 Framework. Update committees for grades K-8 and 9-12 consisting of representatives from the Michigan Council for Civil Education, Michigan Council for Economic Education, Michigan Geographic Alliance, the Michigan Council for History Education, and the Michigan Council for the Social Studies, reviewed and edited Michigan's content expectations. Review committees consisting of parallel membership, provided a second review to ensure consistency and accuracy. These efforts have been shared with the State Board of Education, along with implementation considerations, in a series of presentations earlier this year. A final review committee and an external review committee further refined the documents. The final draft version of the Social Studies Standards can be found at www.michigan.gov/socialstudies.

In order to complete the process, MDE staff will be conducting public information and feedback sessions in nine sites across the state. Additionally, an online option exists for those unable to attend a scheduled session. The information regarding the public information and feedback sessions, as well as a link to the online option, will be shared with the public following the August board meeting.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324